

DECISION

**THE COMPTROLLER GENERAL
OF THE UNITED STATES**
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20548

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FILE: B-216721**DATE:** October 22, 1984**MATTER OF:** Transequip, Inc.**DIGEST:**

Protest alleging improprieties in an IFB apparent prior to bid opening must be filed before that date with either the contracting agency or GAO.

Transequip, Inc. protests that the methodology for evaluation of offers was unclear in invitation for bids (IFB) No. FO9603-84-B-0001, issued by the Department of the Air Force, Robins Air Force Base, Georgia.

The solicitation set bid opening for February 1, 1984. Transequip initially protested the evaluation methodology to the Air Force in July 1984, and Transequip's protest of the Air Force's denial of its protest was filed at GAO on October 9, 1984.

Our Bid Protest Procedures require that a protest alleging improprieties in an IFB that are apparent prior to bid opening must be filed with either the contracting agency or this Office before bid opening. 4 C.F.R. § 21.2(b)(1) (1984); Turbine Engine Services Corp., B-215281, May 29, 1984, 84-1 CPD ¶ 582. Since Transequip did not protest the alleged solicitation improprieties until after bid opening, its protest is untimely and will not be considered.

The protest is dismissed.

Harry R. Van Cleve

Harry R. Van Cleve
General Counsel

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